

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on June 20, 2005, and the references cited therewith.

Claim 1 is amended, and no claims are canceled or added; as a result, claims 1-8 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Rackman (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,961). Applicant traverses this rejection as follows.

Applicant does not admit that the Rackman reference is indeed prior art and reserves the right to swear behind the same at a later date.

In the third section of the Detailed Action, the Examiner cites the Rackman reference as describing “reading out an image of the original line by line [indexing of sequential order] on a forward route and a backward route, see col. 3, lines 65 through col. 4, lines 1-25”. In column 3, lines 27-28, 39-40, 44-46, 49-51, and 54-56, the Rackman reference states:

In the system of FIG. 1, character recognition is the basis for determining document orientation. . . . Incoming data, or a representation of it, is stored in RAM memory 14. . . . The data stored in RAM 14 is accessed by character recognition processor 16 through controller 12. . . . The character recognition program determines whether an incoming document arrived top first or bottom first. . . . A command sent over line 36 controls reading to take place either in the same order in which data was stored, or in the reverse order . . .

The Rackman reference appears to describe determining whether an incoming document that was already scanned and stored conventionally from top to bottom arrived top first or bottom first by a character recognition program so as to control whether reading of the already stored data takes place either in the same order in which the data was stored or in the reverse order.

The Rackman reference does not show moving a second scanline during scanning relative to the object in a bottom to top scan direction, and indexing a plurality of cross linear samplings in a reverse sequential order.

In contrast, Applicant’s independent claim 1, as amended, recites a method of scanning an object that includes:

moving a second scanline during scanning relative to the object in a bottom to top scan direction;
indexing a plurality of cross linear samplings in a reverse sequential order.

Additionally, the Rackman reference does not show scanning a second image bearing media in a bottom to top scan direction, and indexing a plurality of cross linear samplings in reverse sequential order.

In contrast, Applicant's independent claims 3 and 5 each recite:

scanning a second image bearing media in a bottom to top scan direction; and
indexing a plurality of cross linear samplings in reverse sequential order.

Lastly, the Rackman reference does not show a transport assembly connected to the scanner controller for moving a scanline relative to the object in a top to bottom scan direction followed by moving the scanline relative to the object in a bottom to top scan direction.

In contrast, Applicant's independent claim 8 recites:

a transport assembly connected to the scanner controller for moving a scanline relative to the object in a top to bottom scan direction followed by moving the scanline relative to the object in a bottom to top scan direction;

As such, Applicant respectfully submits that each and every element and limitation of independent claims 1, 3, 5, and 8 is not present in the Rackman reference. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 102 rejection of independent claims 1, 3, 5, and 8, as well as those claims that depend therefrom.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney Gregg W. Wisdom at (360) 212-8052 to facilitate prosecution of this matter.

At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 13th day of September, 2005.

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